



**161° Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives  
United Nations Environment Programme  
Statement by the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Colombia**

9<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Thank you, chair, for giving me the floor, and good morning to all distinguished colleagues,

Colombia aligns itself with the statements delivered by Costa Rica on behalf of the GRULAC and by Pakistan on behalf of the G77 and China.

Mme ED, thank you for your always enlightening remarks and comprehensive vision. You give us hope for finding the required coherence and gears in the fragmented environmental governance landscape.

Dear Mme. Elizabeth Mrema, our Deputy Executive Director, welcome back home – karibu tena. Colombia congratulates you for being together with our Minister of Environment Susana Muhamad Gonzalez on the Reuters list of 25 trailblazing women leading the fight against climate change.

As Brazil and Chile just mentioned it, yesterday 8<sup>th</sup> of March, we commemorated International Women's Day. Our delegation wants to recognize the preponderant role women play in the care and protection of the natural heritage through the transmission of ancestral knowledge, their leadership in the fight against climate change, and their capacity to take advantage of, conserve and undertake a sustainable use of nature.

Facing the challenges to achieving the Agenda 2030 and the fight against the triple planetary crisis requires empowered and visionary women. Colombia, as the world power of life, is pleased to deploy a feminist foreign policy. My country is implementing the Gender and Climate Change Action Plan - the roadmap guiding the country over the next four years empowers women as weavers of peace, guardians of water, and defenders of territory and life.

Mme ED, Mme DED, we believe in your leadership and assure you of many successes for the benefit of UNEP and the Planet in the coming years.

Finally, Colombia is encouraged to see this room almost full. We urge all Member States to make peace with themselves and the planet.

I thank you.